

Docket No.: ROHS-12/11
Serial No.: 10/738,458

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES
MADE, AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER IDENTIFIERS**

1. (Original) A torsional vibration damper comprising:
 - a first subassembly and a second subassembly rotatably moving relative to one another; and
 - at least one coupling element including an essentially tangentially effective elastic element for interconnecting the first and second subassemblies, and at least one thrust piston connected to the elastic element,
 - wherein during a first phase in which the first and second subassemblies rotate relative to one another about a predetermined angle of rotation, the thrust piston moves slower than said first subassembly and is moved faster than said first subassembly during a second phase when the rotation of the first and second subassemblies exceeds the predetermined angle of rotation, whereby the thrust piston applies upon the first subassembly in opposition to the rotation thereof a restoring force which increases with increase in the relative rotation of the first and second subassemblies above the predetermined angle of rotation.
2. (Previously presented) A torsional vibration damper according to claim 1, wherein during the second phase the movement of said first subassembly leads to a translation into a movement of said thrust piston in correspondence to the relative angle of rotation.

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3. (Original) A torsional vibration damper according to claim 1, wherein the two subassemblies rotatably moving relative to one another around a common axis at increasing angles of rotation so that the relative rotation leads the thrust piston to be moved relative to said first subassembly around said common axis, whereby said thrust piston moves slower around said common axis than said first subassembly moves around said common axis at relative angles of rotation of less than 12° between said two subassemblies.
4. (Original) A torsional vibration damper according to claim 1, wherein said coupling element further comprises a second thrust piston in such a manner so that one thrust piston is located on each side of said elastic element and wherein the displacement of the first thrust piston leads the first thrust piston initially into a tilting motion relative to said first subassembly and relative to the second thrust piston.
5. (Original) A torsional vibration damper according to claim 1, wherein the thrust piston is displaced relative to said first subassembly by means of a guide surface of the first subassembly and by means of a guide surface of the second subassembly.
6. (Currently amended) A torsional vibration damper according to claim 4 5, wherein the displacement of the thrust piston includes a sliding movement of said first subassembly underneath said thrust piston on said guide surface upon relative movement of said two subassemblies at least at a

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certain relative angle between said two subassemblies, while said thrust piston is acting onto said guide surface with the restoring force.

7. (Currently amended) The torsional vibration damper according to claim 1, wherein said thrust piston being guided along mutual guide surfaces relative to said first and second subassemblies, so that in the first phase the thrust piston bears upon the second subassembly and in the second phase is radially tilted relative to the its first position.
8. (Currently amended) The torsional rotation damper of claim 1, wherein the coupling element includes two thrust pistons, which are each provided with a recess for mutual engagement with one another at a particular relative angle between the two subassemblies.
9. (Currently amended) The torsional vibration damper of claim 8, wherein the elastic element is a spring element, said thrust pistons each having a lateral support surface for the a spring element disposed between the thrust pistons, ~~said spring element engaging the respective recess of each thrust piston.~~
10. (Original) The torsional vibration damper according to claim 9, wherein said two thrust pistons each have an axial external region formed with a slanted ramp surface.

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11. (Previously presented) The torsional vibration damper according to claim 10, wherein each piston is provided with a guide surface axially adjacent to the slanted ramp surface for contact upon one of the subassemblies.
12. (Previously presented) The torsional vibration damper according to claim 1, wherein the coupling element includes at least two thrust pistons; wherein each thrust piston has a receiving position and an engagement position in relation to one of the two rotational subassemblies.
13. (Original) The torsional vibration damper according to claim 12, wherein one the thrust pistons is tilted radially inwards in its engagement position in relation to the other thrust piston.
14. (Cancelled)
15. (Original) The torsional vibration damper according to claim 12, wherein the elastic element acts as means for securing one of the two thrust pistons in its receiving position, when the other one of the two thrust pistons occupies its engagement position.
16. (Cancelled)

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17. (Original) The torsional vibration damper according to claim 1, wherein the coupling element essentially includes two identical thrust pistons positioned in opposite disposition.
18. (Original) The torsional vibration damper according to claim 8, wherein the thrust pistons are configured asymmetrical in relation to a radial plane of the torsional vibration damper.
19. (Previously presented) The torsional vibration damper according to claim 1, wherein the elastic element is a spring element.

Claims 20-23 (Canceled)

24. (Previously presented) The torsional vibration damper of claim 1, wherein during the first phase the thrust piston bears upon a guide surface of the second subassembly and in the second phase, the thrust piston moves into a tilted position relative to the first subassembly while the rotational movement of the first subassembly is translated into a movement of the piston in dependence on the size of the relative rotational angle between the two subassemblies.

Claims 25-35 (Canceled)